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"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES"

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NUMBER 19.

LE LOUISIANNAIS.

SAMEDI, 18, MARS 1882.

L'ADIEU.

Avec ce numéro du journal, comme Editeur et Directeur de cette Feuille Indépendante, nous nous retirons, transmettant notre plume à son honorable et zélé propriétaire, le gouv. P. B. S. Pinchback. Le LOUISIANNAIS pendant douze ans se tint comme un géant, dans la tranchée, défendant les droits de la race opprimée. Sans égards, aux critiques, aux amis et ennemis, il frappa des coups d'éclat jusqu'à ce que son nom devint familier dans chaque Paroisse de l'Etat, et dans chaque Etat de l'Union.

Il y a près d'un an que la place distinguée de rédacteur en chef nous a été confiée, par le propriétaire. Ce n'était pas une tâche facile, elle réclamait beaucoup de réflexions et de conseils, avant que nous puissions nous décider à l'accepter. La carrière du journal avait été si remarquable depuis sa naissance, sa position, si digne et si franche, ses colonnes, si bien rédigées, qu'il nous semblait difficile, qu'il y avait de quoi hésiter.

Nous venions de terminer une campagne bien ardue. L'adieu du parti, connue sous le nom de "Stalwart," dont le LOUISIANNAIS avait épousé si vigoureusement la cause, avait été battue, et déboutée, par presque tous les journaux du pays. Mais fidèle à nos principes et à ceux du peuple nous n'avions qu'à nous maintenir ou nous retirer de la lice. Une administration de laquelle nous ne pouvions espérer que bien peu de faveurs, venait d'être inaugurée. Telles furent la condition de choses lorsque nous prîmes charge du LOUISIANNAIS. A cette époque commençait "l'imbroglie" mémorable de Garfield et Conkling. Le moment était critique, et il fallait du courage pour se tenir du côté du droit. Croyant que le Sénateur Conkling, (qui avait tant fait pour sauver le Parti Républicain d'une défaite signalée,) avait raison, nous avons osé le supporter, malgré le peu de sympathie publique qu'il y avait pour lui. Pour nous, nous croyons qu'il a plus souffert de la balle de l'assassin que le Président lui-même. Nous avons entrepris, par la suite, la tâche de faire valoir la représentation de couleur, et ceux parmi eux qui occupent aujourd'hui des places Fédérales ne manqueront pas de témoigner, avec quel succès nous avons réussi. Les Républicains de la Louisiane ont endossé notre ligne de conduite à l'égard de la défense du Président Arthur, lorsqu'il était assailli avec violence de droite et de gauche. Et le plus grand de tout les succès, est la nomination de M. Roscoe Conkling, comme juge associé de la Cour Suprême des Etats-Unis. Mais il a décliné le siège. Nous dirons à nos abonnés et lecteurs, qu'en nous retirant de cette position honorable, nous enportons la confiance et la considération du propriétaire et les regrets de nos concitoyens. Nous avons été appelés, par l'influence des amis et la considération du Président, à une position si noble plus honorable, du moins plus lucrative, et nous partons avec l'assurance que le LOUISIANNAIS dans l'avenir, comme par le passé, sera toujours prêt à défendre les droits de notre parti. Nous rendons justice au Président d'avoir reconnu les mérites du gouverneur Pinchback, et de les avoir récompensés en lui conférant l'appointment de Voyer du Port de la Nouvelle-Orléans. A cette occasion nous avons publié les lettres de félicitations que le gouverneur a reçues. En conclusion, nous conseillons, parmi les journaliers, l'harmonie, et nous prédisons pour la race, une ère de bonheur.

A PROPOS DU DISCOURS DU SÉNATEUR JONES DU NEVADA.

A la séance du Sénat du 9 Mars, Mr. Jones du Nevada a prononcé un discours qui a créé une sensation extraordinaire dans tous les Etats-Unis. Ce discours sur l'émigration Chinoise, et sur les Africains, en ce XIX. siècle de progrès, ne manquera pas de donner droit aux Républicains du pays et aux descendants de race africaine, particulièrement, de condamner les arguments du Sénateur sur ce sujet. Pour ce qu'il en est de la race africaine, l'opinion de Mr. Jones est sans doute en défaut, sur tous les points de vue qu'il a cru devoir envisager cette race. Il est étonnant, qu'il ne se soit pas trouvé un Sénateur Républicain qui ait répondu, sur l'heure, à l'argument erroné de Mr. Jones. Cependant la conduite passée de nos Sénateurs Républicains vis-à-vis de cette même race africaine, et tout dernièrement celle du Président vis-à-vis des hommes de couleur de différents Etats de l'Union nous laissent à douter que le discours de Mr. Jones, (quoique son réponse) ait été si bien apprécié par ceux-ci.

En réalité qu'y a-t-il dans l'opinion de Mr. Jones sur la race africaine, autre chose qu'une marque distincte de son préjugé personnel contre cette race. Faut-il un crime aux Africains d'être aussi doux, aussi dévoués, et susceptibles d'autant de perfection que les Caucasiens. Lorsque les Confédérés furent obligés de tenir une campagne de quatre années, les Africains n'ont-ils pas dans ces mêmes Etats du Sud dont Mr. Jones fait mention, entretenus les familles de leurs maîtres absents? Ont-ils cherché ce qu'il veut bien appeler l'assimilation des races? Au reste dans le Sud depuis longtemps les races s'assimilent d'elles-mêmes—nous portons bien notre nom ici en Louisiane "Peuple Cosmopolite."

Sans doute Mr. Jones, ne sait pas, que les Africains d'une section du Sud, "la Louisiane," ont énormément contribué à assésier une place honorable à Mr. Jones son frère, dans l'hôtel de la Monnaie de la Nouvelle-Orléans. Il ne leur enlèvera pas nous croyons, l'intelligence avec laquelle ils ont agi en cette circonstance. Mr. Jones semble craindre la suprématie africaine dans ces régions du Sud. Comment apposer un moment que 2 millions d'hommes de descendance africaine, nouvellement libérés, n'ayant qu'une quinzaine d'années d'expérience politique et sociale, puissent prétendre à gouverner les 18 ou 20 millions d'hommes de la race Caucasienne (qui comptent le Sud), fortifiés par deux cents ans d'éducation, et l'habitude du commandement. Mr. Jones est le seul qui plane au-dessus de ces 22 millions d'hommes du Sud, avec sa prophétie, mais heureusement qu'au-dessus de lui plane l'œil vigilant, éternel et redempteur de cette grande figure, "la Vérité." Nous vivons dans un siècle de progrès et non pas de rétrograde; dans un siècle où l'Africain intelligent marche côte-à-côte avec le Caucasiens intelligent; où proportionnellement, il y a autant d'ignorance parmi les Caucasiens que parmi les Africains.

Mr. Jones dit, que si l'on entend les désastres de la dernière guerre, (attribués à l'importation des Africains,) que jamais ceux-ci n'auraient souillé le sol de ce pays. Voici le moment de rétrograder, et pour cela nous "craquerons" histoire.

Les Africains en conséquence, (le Caucasiens n'importe lui seul,) et par la combinaison de son plus grand nombre et de sa plus grande "intelligence," il fit des merveilles ici, mais avec l'aide de ces bras Africains. Et ces merveilles accomplies, qui consistent en de très belles villes, un commerce florissant et des grandes industries comme celles du Sénateur du Nevada, permettent aujourd'hui d'oublier l'Africain, et de prophétiser son antisémitisme.

Nous parlons d'histoire. Les grandes révolutions ne se sont jamais accomplies, sans qu'il en soient résultés quelques bénéfices pour les persécutés. En France, la série de ces révolutions a été longue. Elle commença sous le règne de Charles IX entre les Princes, continua sous celui de son frère Henri III, s'endormit sous les règnes glorieux d'Henri IV, Louis XIII et Louis XIV, se réveilla dans les derniers temps de celui de Louis XV, englobait Louis XVI, devint terrible sous Robespierre en '93 et par régé éré le peuple, par l'avènement au pouvoir d'un enfant du peuple, Napoléon, la plus grande figure du siècle. Aujourd'hui la France recueille les fruits de cette série de révolutions. Tout le monde, nobles et bourgeois, militaires et valets, jouissent des mêmes droits et privilèges.

L'Angleterre est en crise sous Cromwell, Charles Ier paya le prix de la rédemption, et 12 ans d'exil firent comprendre à Charles II son fils, qu'il devait être le premier roi à donner aux Anglais un gouvernement constitutionnel, dont il jouissent jusqu'aujourd'hui. Les serfs en Russie demandent autant.

Comment les Etats-Unis, qui ne sont (dans son peuple) qu'une agglomération de ces autres peuples païens, après avoir suivi avec gloire, la ligne tracée par ces mêmes peuples, rétrograder. Rétrograder la Constitution, renier les Franklin, les Adams, les Calhoun, les Clay, les Sumner, Grant, et Napoléon de l'Union, Arthur le Stalwart, et Conkling le diplomate, nous dirons le mot malgré Napoléon, "impossible." Le peuple des Etats-Unis veut profiter de ces révolutions, l'Africain autant que le Caucasiens, le noir américain autant que le blanc américain. Regardons l'île d'Haïti: n'est-elle pas gouvernée par des Africains et descendants d'Africains. Ne trouve-t-on pas l'intelligence chez ces hommes noirs et jaunes, l'amour de l'indépendance, les hautes capacités politiques, sociales et commerciales que l'on trouve chez les autres peuples. Si, comme les blancs, les noirs des Etats-Unis avaient eu deux cents ans pour acquérir l'éducation, la force, et la fortune, au lieu de 20 ans, nous pourrions compter des Rigand, des Soulongue, des Toussaint-l'Ouverture, des Boileau-Canal; et cependant n'aurait pas eu, et n'aurait pas encore des Bruns, des Frédéric Douglas, des Pinchback, des Elliott, des Greenier, des Lynch, des Langston, des Flipper. La France n'aurait-elle pas eu, et n'aurait-elle pas encore les Alex. Dumas, personification de l'intelligence, de l'homme policé et du génie créateur. Des exceptions, dirait-on! Oui, mais proportionnellement au nombre, et aux moyens d'acquiescer, les Africains et leurs descendants s'il y a une chose de vraie, ont encore plus de mérite. Et nos Carolines, nos Louisianes, nos Mississippis, n'ont-elles pas dans cette race africaine et dans leurs descendants, des intelligences locales, capables de frayer, en politique, en commerce, en société avec les intelligences locales de la race Caucasienne. La France se glorifie de Dumas père, et lui élève une statue publique, en reconnaissance. Et quoiqu'on en dise les Etats-Unis, avec le temps suivra son exemple, en mémoire de quelque Don-

glass, ou de quelque Flipper. Nous regrettons que le manque de générosité de Mr. Jones se soit mise à jour aussi véritablement et publiquement comme dans son discours du 9. En conclusion et pour l'édification de tous ceux qui pourraient malheureusement épouser les vues du Sénateur du Nevada, nous dirons que l'Africain se cherche aucune suprématie dans le Sud, ni ailleurs, pas plus que l'assimilation forcée avec les autres races. (Pour l'assimilation, c'est une affaire de goût particulier, mais non pas général.) Et puis, s'il faut aujourd'hui dire la vérité, ne sont-ce pas les Caucasiens dans le Sud et dans toutes les colonies d'Amérique, qui se sont assimilés aux Africains leurs esclaves, et qui ont tellement croisé ces deux familles, (Caucasiens et Africains,) que dans certaines contrées il est parfois assez difficile de reconnaître l'une de l'autre. A ce sujet, on peut prendre les meilleures références possibles, dans le bel ouvrage [d'une vérité et d'une logique écrasantes,] l'habitation St. Ybars ou Matres et Esclaves du Dr. Alfred Mercier, un Canacien.

Au surplus il faut habiter ces régions du Sud, pour se rendre bien compte de la nécessité qu'il y a aujourd'hui pour les deux races de vivre en paix côte-à-côte. Le caucasien seul, dans le Sud, ne peut pas plus remplacer l'Africain que le chinois ne l'a fait il y a quelques 8 ou 9 ans de cela. Mais comme la force des événements ont fait l'Africain, non seulement libre mais citoyen américain, il a le droit de réclamer la mise en vigueur des Treizième et Quatorzième Amendements à la Constitution des Etats-Unis, c'est-à-dire le respect de ses droits et privilèges, l'éducation gratuite comme à tous. Avec ces chaussettes il marchera à pas de géant et trouvera en proportion de son nombre, dans quelques années, sa place dans l'histoire de ce pays. Il faut que le progrès marche, et le noir avec lui, partagera dans la postérité sa gloire avec le blanc.

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LES

NUITS DE LA MAISON DOREE.

PAR

PONSON DU TERRAIL.

VIII.

Raymond donna à son tour, et don Inigo fit un point encore.

—Quatre à rien! dit Raymond.

Voilà une belle partie à gagner.

—Vous avez juste le temps! dit le Portugais en tournant une carte.

C'était un sept.

—Je dois avoir le roi dans mon jeu, dit-il.

—Vous vous trompez, monsieur, répondit froidement Raymond.

Il abattit son jeu. Il avait quatre atouts par le roi.

Le cercle, qui s'intéressait à Raymond, reprit courage.

Raymond donna, tourna le roi et fit le point.

Il avait gagné!

Un murmure d'admiration courut comme un frémissement parmi la galerie.

—Il faut passer neuf fois encore, dit le Portugais toujours calme.

—J'en réponds, répliqua Raymond, dont le regard devenait sévère.

Et il gagna une seconde partie, puis une troisième.

Don Inigo commença à pâlir.

—Monsieur, dit Raymond, il est temps encore. Si vous doutez, répondez à cette partie.

—Avez-vous peur? fit le Portugais dont les lèvres blanchirent.

—Non certes! s'écria Raymond.

Et, dès lors, il joua avec cette incorruptible assurance, cette certitude de l'homme qui sent la veine, et un vent de tempête, le tas d'or et le morceau de billets étalés tout à

l'heure devant don Inigo avaient passé devant lui.

Raymond avait gagné dix mille francs, c'est-à-dire deux cent mille francs.

—Monsieur, dit alors le Portugais dont le front était baigné de sueur, à mon tour, je vous propose d'en rester à.

—Ah! ah! ricana Raymond.

—Ne t'en va pas la fortune! murmura le Portugais.

Bon! fit Raymond, que la fièvre du jeu éteignait; maintenant, c'est vous qui avez peur!

Le Portugais était devenu pâle de rage sous sa peau bistrée.

—Eh bien! dit-il, allons jusqu'à au bout!... Je vois que mon or va me revenir.

Les dix ou douze jeunes gens qui entouraient Raymond gardaient un morne silence, étreints qu'ils étaient par une indicible émotion.

Mais Raymond avait un sang-froid terrible, un bonheur à faire pâlir un congénat.

Il gagna la dixième partie en deux coups, et don Inigo se leva ivre de fureur, sans avoir marqué un seul point.

Un tonnerre de bravos éclata alors dans tout le club.

—Voilà, s'écria-t-on, la plus belle martingale qu'on ait jamais jouée!

Raymond s'était levé à son tour et considérait son gain avec stupéfaction.

Il était entré au club vers neuf heures avec quarante louis qui constituaient sa fortune présente et à venir.

Onze heures sonnaient, et il avait devant lui un peu plus de quatre cent mille francs!

Et cependant un remords terrible, un scrupule étrange s'emparaient de lui.

—Monsieur, dit-il au Portugais, voulez-vous votre revanche?

Mais don Inigo, s'il avait la passion et les colères du joueur, avait aussi les instincts délicats du gentilhomme.

—Non, monsieur, dit-il. Ce n'était point convenu.

Et il salua et sortit.

—Mon Dieu! murmura Raymond en posant ses deux mains sur son front, est-ce que je ne fais pas un rêve?

—Oui, lui dit une voix, un rêve d'or...

Et Raymond tressaillit, et de nouveau il se prit à songer à cette belle jeune fille un moment entrevue, et qui, une heure auparavant, était si loin de lui!... Et alors il étendit vers son gain une main fiévreuse.

IX.

Les amazones que nous avions vues descendre de cheval pour monter dans une voiture découverte, avaient quitté le bois et gagné le faubourg Saint-Germain par les Champs-Élysées et les quais.

La jeune fille était à droite, sa gouvernante à gauche.

Mlle Blanche de Guérigny portait avoir vingt ans.

Elle avait une adorable chevelure d'un blond fauve, de grands yeux d'un bleu sombre, un large front blanc comme l'ivoire, et des lèvres roses faites tout exprès pour le plus gracieux et le plus matin des sourires.

Blanche était de taille moyenne; elle avait des pieds et des mains d'enfant.

Elle était à l'anglais, Mlle de Guérigny montait à cheval, faisait des armes, tirait au pistolet, suivait une chasse au galop.

Elle était unique, elle avait perdu son père de bonne heure, et n'avait au monde que sa mère, qui l'idolâtrait.

La gouvernante de Mlle de Guérigny était une femme encore jeune, encore belle, d'une distinction achevée, et d'une naissance irréprochable.

Elle avait été du meilleur monde,

et elle était veuve d'un officier supérieur tué devant Sébastopol.

Elle se nommait Mme de Berlant, et n'avait aucune fortune.

Blanche et Mme de Berlant vivaient sur un pied d'intimité parfaite. La jeune fille aimait à rompre comme une sœur aînée, et celle-ci adorait Blanche comme son enfant.

A C. natus.

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The Louisianian.

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No notice taken of anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Rejected communications cannot be returned, neither can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

The proprietor of this paper will not be responsible for the sentiments of communications.

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ONCE MORE AT THE HELM.

The retirement of Mr. H. C. C. Astwood from the editorial control of the LOUISIANIAN necessitates a temporary resumption of that position by me and I enter upon the task with a keen sense of my inability to come up to the full measure of the requirements which are essential to keep the paper abreast with the times and maintain its reputation as a fearless and independent advocate of the rights of the people. Young, able, energetic, and independent Mr. Astwood infused into the columns of the LOUISIANIAN much of his own remarkable vigor and persistence and I am quite sure much of the snap which characterized his writing and made it so popular with the mass of the patrons of the paper is under my editorial control. The time was when I felt, wrote, and acted much after the fashion of my young friend; but years of bitter experience in which all phases of human life have been laid bare to my gaze has done much to destroy its romance and bring me down from the ideal to the plain level of stern realities and practicalities. I shall therefore speak plainly on all subjects affecting the public good; award praise freely where it is due and censure without reserve all who in my judgment deserve to be censured.

Mr. Wm. R. Boyd will continue on the staff and have charge of the Local Department and Mr. E. Loquet of the French Department on which he will soon have valuable assistance. Several able writers have kindly offered to become contributors and I think it safe to say that in a short time the staff will be equal to that of any colored paper in the United States.

P. B. S. PIERCE.

THE RIVER'S RAMPAGE.

The scene of desolation which meets the eye from the pilot-house of every steamer that glides over the "Father of Waters" between Cairo and New-Orleans is of all sights the most dreary. The destruction already accomplished is terrible to contemplate; but to know that, in all probability, the river has not yet done its worst is appalling. With "water, water, everywhere, in the lower valley of the Mississippi, a large proportion of the finest cotton land in the world is submerged; and of which it is estimated that not more than one half or two-thirds will be available this season for planting.

More than 50,000 people, in Illinois, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky and Louisiana, have already been driven from their homes and reduced to temporary destitution. The appropriation passed by Congress under the resolution of February 23d has already been found inadequate to furnish the relief needed by the sufferers; and a joint resolution was taken up and passed by Congress on the 13th inst. appropriating \$100,000 additional. The first consideration, in this dire calamity is the relief of the sufferers; and the Chaplain of the Senate in his invocation on the morning of the 14th inst., seems to have hit the nail on the head by praying: Look, oh Lord, in tender compassion on our fellow-citizens who are suffering from the ravages of flood. Give them food and raiment and everything that is convenient for their relief."

The next thing to be considered will be the other injuries effects of the disaster. The New-York Times, which seems to have given the subject a very serious consideration, estimating the probable damage by present flood says: "A loss of half a million bales in the coming crop, as the direct result of the floods is not impossible. That means a money loss of \$25,000,000 for the country. Add the losses in stock and other property, and the damage to crops other than cotton, and it is certainly within bounds to assume that the total will reach \$40,000,000."

But the last and most important consideration is, how can a recurrence of similar disasters be prevented? Evidently by creating a permanent navigable channel in the Mississippi river within which the whole volume of water may be confined and compelled to flow. Alluding to the probable cost by which this desideratum may be secured, the Times says: "Let the amount be double or treble, add to the known and measurable obstacles to the work others unknown, and not estimable, such as interruptions of floods, the necessity in some localities of building not only a levee, but a costly foundation for it, and the probable formation of mud banks and shoals by the changed currents, and it is still evident that, simply to prevent these most destructive overflows, and putting quite out of sight the improvement of navigation, this work somehow and sometime must be done."

SENATOR JONES'S SPEECH.

Washington telegrams of the 10th inst. to the daily papers in this city contained copious extracts from a speech said to have been made by Senator Jones, of Nevada, in the United States Senate on the 9th inst. in the debate on the Chinese bill. In these extracts the Senator is made to say some unkind things about the colored race.

The purported speech is so diametrically opposed to every utterance and act of the Senator since he has been in public life, that we are slow to believe he has been correctly reported. In the three year contest which we had the misfortune to wage in the United States Senate, we were often brought in contact with the Senator and on all occasions he was frank, courteous, sympathetic and the very embodiment of chivalric honesty. On the final vote for our admission he voted in the affirmative and therein gave the world the best possible proof of his belief in the capacity and fitness of the colored man to exercise in the fullest

sense the highest privilege of an American citizen. In truth no man in the Nation has impressed us more favorably as an honest and true friend of the colored race, and we shall indulge in no adverse criticism of him until we are in possession of proof of his falsity; and are convinced that we were mistaken in the character of the man by whose evidence other than might seem to be furnished by the intemperate utterances he is said to have delivered in the heated debate on the Chinese bill. Upon every proposition affecting the rights and privileges of the colored race that has come before the Senate since Senator Jones has been a member of that body he has voted right; and until by his vote he gives evidence of hostility to our people, we shall refuse to class him among our enemies.

WEST INDIAN TRADE.

The importance of the West Indian and South American trade is becoming apparent to our merchants. For years those who have been interested in the commercial upbuilding of this port have not ceased to agitate the matter, but a lack of energy and commercial enterprise have kept back the development of a lucrative trade which would have added millions of dollars to the coffers of our merchants. New Orleans is the legitimate source from which the immense quantity of provisions consumed in these markets should flow.

The LOUISIANIAN has heretofore in several elaborate and comprehensive articles showed how this trade might be utilized. Since the jetty system has proved a success and the Eads' Ship Railway bids fair to be a reality, no time should be lost by our merchants in laying the foundation of a successful and remunerative trade with these places. We are glad to note that the enterprising house of Schmidt & Zeigler has launched out in an enterprise which if continued cannot fail to be the precursor of a new commercial boom for this city. The running of the Lucy P. Miller between this port and Jamaica will give an impetus to the desired end. Whilst the Jamaica market is overcrowded by means of competition between European and Northern capitalists, yet there is ample room to begin a successful competition with the Crescent City. But we have now brighter prospects of a more lucrative trade than that with Jamaica. The President has just appointed an energetic young man from Louisiana as Consul to St. Domingo. This island is one of the largest and most important in the West Indies. It consumes an enormous quantity of provisions, liquors and domestic goods which can be furnished cheaper from New Orleans than any other port in this country. There being scarcely no competition in the trade, freights are enormously high. Much better rates can be had from this port with interest to our carriers. The exports of tobacco, mahogany, lignumvita, dye woods, hides, bee's wax, sugar, honey, tropical fruits and vegetables of all kinds are exceedingly large, which trade or a large portion of it with but little energy could be turned in this direction.

Our representatives in Congress could make an appeal to subsidize a mail steamer to ply between this city and the island of St. Domingo, which would largely enhance the business of this section. Let the route be from New Orleans to Port-au-Prince, Hayti, the Cape, Mt. Christi, Puerto Plata, Samana Bay, St. Domingo City, and back by the same route. Such a line we are certain will pay better than any line running to any other port at present. It would take a steamer of immense size to conduct this trade making monthly trips, and if undertaken will produce large profits to the undertakers. The LOUISIANIAN being interested in the commercial welfare of this section takes pleasure in throwing out these suggestions to our merchants, and will from time to time give such information as we hope will encourage our business men to undertake this lucrative enterprise.

REV. HENRY HIGHLAND GARNETT.

On the 14th inst., information was received, at the State Department, of the death of the Hon. Henry Highland Garnett, United States Minister to the Republic of Liberia, Africa. We are not apprised of the particulars of his death, but we presume that it was sudden, as Dr. Garnett had but recently assumed the duties of his position. The announcement will undoubtedly cause general regret among the wide circle of friends and acquaintances in the United States among whom his long and active lifetime had, until very recently, been passed.

Born in Virginia but reared from infancy in the State of New-York the Rev. Mr. Garnett was pre-eminently a self-made man. Pastor for many years of the Shiloh Presbyterian church, beloved by his congregation and esteemed for his cultivated mind and genial qualities by all who knew him, and zealous in every good work, he exercised a controlling influence by his counsel and example in society; especially among the people with whom by race he was identified.

An able divine, an ardent advocate of the rights of his race, and a staunch Republican, when the United States Government finally consented to enlist colored troops, Dr. Garnett actively cooperated in organizing the first colored regiment that left New-York for the seat of war; officiating as its chaplain up to the time of its departure. In fact, when we recall the various incidents of a lifetime acquaintance, it is pleasing to remember that in every walk, wherever he was called to tread, Dr. Garnett by his manly virtues as well as by his fervent piety proved an exemplar to his race.

Therefore, it was with peculiar gratification that we learned of the appointment, by President Arthur as Minister to Liberia, of a man so eminently worthy of the honor. And now that, ripe in years and full of honors, he is suddenly called to his reward of meritorious service, it lessens the sadness of regret to remember that

"His life was gentle; and the elements
So mix'd in him, that Nature might
stand up
And say to all the world, 'This was a
man!'"

MR. CONKLING'S LETTER.

Mr. Conkling's letter declining the U. S. Judgeship is in keeping with all of the wise and statesmanlike utterances of the great man. We print it for the satisfaction of his many friends in Louisiana and as a rebuke to the loud mouthed and unprincipled politicians who have been so previous in denouncing him.

Washington, March 13. — The following letter was made public to-day:

No. 29 NASSAU STREET,
New York, March 3, 1882.
Mr. President — Absence prevented a prompt acknowledgment of your two esteemed letters, which were found here awaiting my return from Ulster. The high and unexpected honor your proffer by selecting me as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States is greatly valued.

It will ever be a matter of pride and satisfaction that you and the Senate deemed me fit for so grave and exalted a trust; but for reasons which you would not fail to appreciate, I am constrained to decline. Although urgent demands on my time just now prevent my accepting your cordial invitation to pass a few days with you in Washington, let me hold this as a pleasure deferred but not lost.

I have the honor to be, sincerely,
Your obedient servant,
ROBERT CONKLING.

To the President.
We take pleasure in giving space to the following compliment paid our retired editor, from one of the most influential and liberal journals of North Louisiana. It goes to show that our esteemed friend is well and favorably known in that section of the State, and wherever known he is always respected:

H. G. C. Astwood is going to St. Domingo after all. Better than teaching school in Carroll we hope. Astwood is a clean, clever fellow and will make a good Consul. Our recollections of him are quite agreeable, and we wish him well. —Herald of Lake Providence, (Dem.)

THE OVERFLOW.

In our last issue elaborate mention was made in connection with the disastrous overflow now devastating almost every section of our State. Since then the situation has become even more desperate and the necessity for aid more stringent. The people all over the State are making gigantic efforts to protect those sections which are threatened with impending danger. In this connection we print the proceedings of a mass meeting held at Houma, Terrebonne parish, on the 13th inst. The character of the individuals connected with this meeting is sufficient to attest the gravity of the situation and the necessity of prompt action. We trust that the appeal to Congress through our Senators and Representatives will meet with immediate success.

MASS MEETING OF THE PEOPLE OF TERREBONNE, LA.

At 12 o'clock on Monday, March 13th, 1882, the people of the parish assembled at the Courthouse, pursuant to the call, Tobias Gibson, Esq., called the meeting to order and proposed Hon. Duncan S. Cagge as Chairman of the meeting, John K. Aitkens, Esq., was elected Secretary.

On taking the chair, the chairman called on Mr. Gibson to state the object of the meeting.

In concluding his remarks, Mr. Gibson moved the appointment of a committee of three on resolutions which was adopted.

Messrs. Tobias Gibson, F. S. Goode, and W. A. Shaffer were appointed on the committee to draft suitable resolutions expressing the sense of the meeting.

The committee retired and after deliberation returned with their report, embodied in the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, The flood of water poured into the valley of the Mississippi from all the territory lying between the Rocky Mountains and the Alleghenies, extending northward to the source of the Mississippi river, including some twenty States and Territories of the Union, has been this year unprecedented and beyond the resistance of human power, and coming down into the delta bringing devastation, destruction and ruin to every interest and industry, thus paralyzing this country and this people for years to come; and

Whereas, The majority of the people of the lower valley are thrown upon public charity to prevent actual starvation and have been forced, through no fault or dereliction of their own, to appeal to the Government for substantial aid, without which they must perish; and

Whereas, The money contributed and to be contributed by public charity and the general Government to save life, would have been sufficient to have averted this distress to those people and the destruction of crops, stock and industries had the Congress of the United States acted in time upon the recommendations of the Mississippi River Commission; and

Whereas, The revenue to the Government received from this section, are ample to guarantee the needed protection and still remain a source of increasing national wealth; and

Whereas, The people of this section have the right to expect the Congress of the United States to return to them in such improvements as are essential to the existence and sustenance of this country and people, a moiety of the large sums contributed by them to the general welfare. Therefore

Be it resolved by the people of the parish of Terrebonne in mass meeting assembled, That we should not be made to bear the burden imposed on us by the outpourings of all the waters of the States tributary to the Mississippi, unassisted by those States and unheeded by the general government.

Resolved, That we once again appeal to the Congress of the United States to promptly act on the report and recommendations of the Mississippi River Commission and to grant to this people a tithe at least of the millions of dollars annually poured into the Treasury by the people of the valley, to avert the periodical devastations of the lower Mississippi valley.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with the request that the attention and consideration of the people's representatives be called to the matter, and that the same be published in the local papers and the New Orleans papers.

Resolved, That in order more certainly to accomplish the objects of this meeting, all the parishes of this State and citizens of other States similarly situated with ourselves, or threatened by, or interested in the improvement of the Mississippi River and its tributaries, be recommended to hold like meetings to this.

On motion the preamble and resolutions were adopted unanimously.

Hon. F. S. Goode then took the floor and addressed the meeting at the conclusion of his remarks, on motion, the meeting adjourned.

J. K. AITKENS, D. S. CAGGE,
Secretary. President.

ARCHITECTURE.

III.

"Nor deem the irrevocable Past,
As wholly wasted, wholly vain,
If, rising on its wrecks, at last
To something nobler we attain."

The ruins of ancient architecture which crumble above the surface of the earth, or are found buried in its soil, may be compared to other fossil remains of animal life. They indicate a purpose, demonstrate a plan, and are evidences of the progressive development of ideas.

Architecture, like any other form of art, suggests inquiry concerning the craftsmen to whose genius and skill its existence is due. So far as antiquity is concerned, in many instances all traces of the origin of architectural remains are lost; while in others they are only evidences of social degradation—monuments which traditionally serve to commemorate, not the genius of a people as evidenced by its artistic talent, but the splendor of some barbaric despot. It was to Greece that architecture, in common with every other form of classic art, owed its emancipation, and the artist his celebrity.

But the object of these papers is not the consideration of architecture as an operative science, or art. The purpose is merely to direct attention to a philosophical association originated by an intellectual coterie of Englishmen—among whom was Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of Saint Paul's Cathedral in London; for the purpose of scientific research. The association, being of an eclectic character, in order to guard against the intrusion of other than men of studious habits and literary acquirements, invested itself with the garb of secrecy; and as an appanage to the guild of Operative Masons, instituted, or adopted certain symbolic rites and ceremonies as the prerequisites to being accepted without serving the customary apprenticeship to the craft, as honorary members of the Masonic guild.

Such, then, is reason to believe, was the origin of that "most distinguished, and illustrious body, the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons" of which the Grand Lodge of England is the venerable source. But in treating Freemasonry as a legitimate subject of literary disquisition, writers seem compelled to draw largely upon imagination for facts; and to be inclined to clothe the unknown, hypothetically, with magnificent proportions. This unfortunate necessity which has the effect of rendering Masonic literature either pedantic or puerile, arises, I think, from a false presumption which associating things entirely distinct, seeks for proof of a connection that never existed, and sees points of resemblance that are wholly imaginary.

During the revival of European society from the death-like trance called the "Middle Ages" when not only had literature become apparently extinct, but even Faith, Hope, and Charity no longer dwelt among the mass of mankind—a period which has been properly called the Pagan Renaissance—to revive society from the stupor of despair there was need of an instrumentality that by appealing to intuitive beliefs might remedy the mischiefs of a depraved ecclesiasticism, and a perverted religion. Such an instrumentality was the confraternity of clerical and lay architects to which in England, at a comparatively recent date British Freemasonry became an appanage.

As a purely moral institution, and a clever adaptation to modern ideas and uses of methods anciently employed to conceal knowledge from the many and at the same time transmit it to the few, points of resemblance may be traced between it and the mystic ceremonies with which tradition invested the ideas of natural religion in primitive times, and commemorated the worship of Deity. As examples of those primitive beliefs and ceremonies may be instanced the Jewish sect of Essenes, whose dogmas and ordinances, we are told, corresponded in many things with those of the Pythagoreans, and also with those of the Druids among the pagan tribes of Europe. Still, in my opinion Freemasonry cannot be considered what British

Masons term it, a profession—it is simply a system of moral teaching; a morality, however, which draws its sanction not from the mode of religious belief prevalent at any particular time, or place, or peculiar to any of the various races of mankind.

On the contrary, I believe that its source is to be found in that innate sense of justice—*mens sibi cœcilia recti*—which constitutes the natural criterion of right and wrong, virtue and vice. Recognizing as attributes of humanity the belief in Deity, as well as the cogent belief in the indestructibility of that part of every human being, which wills, thinks, reasons, remembers—which is conscious of continuous existence amidst incessant decay: the I which organizes society, formulates creeds, investigates its various relations to the not—I of its surroundings—Freemasonry respects every phase of religious belief, as well as all forms of political opinion, and sedulously abstains, or should do so, in all its rites and ceremonies, from offending the one, or impugning the other. Hence, "absolute freedom of conscience"—the right of every human being—is indispensable to the existence of an association of intelligent minds, which extending from the East to the West, around the terrestrial globe, and embracing every clime between North and South, encircles the earth with the golden chain of perfect charity.

Whether it originated with the building of the tower of Babel, or the house of Solomon which Lord Bacon, the Brahmin of the North, as he was called, built in his "New Atlantis," is immaterial. But every adept who has been admitted to gaze upon

"that hieroglyphic bright,
Which none but craftsmen ever saw," ought to know enough to know that Freemasonry is neither a cult nor a creed: that the principles which give it vitality, efficiency, and permanency are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; and that its emblems, rites, and ceremonies are venerable and useful only as far as they are made the vehicles of moral truths, and the conservators of practice, not theories, which commend themselves to right reason.

It has been well said: "Every man is the architect of his own fortune," and whatever claim Freemasonry has to be regarded as a speculative science is based upon its tendency to inculcate and impress that idea. It must prove its title by its work. The differentiation of the functions of sciences, as Mr. Spencer would say, have so narrowed the sphere of Freemasonry that it can no longer assume to teach "agriculture, architecture, astronomy, geometry, music, poetry, chemistry, government and religion." But if it continues, within the circles which it describes, to inculcate fidelity, exact morality, and enjoin universal charity, it will escape the charge of lagging superfluities on the stage of action, and make good its claim to be regarded as a patent agency in promoting the happiness of mankind. So mote yit be!

Senator Kellogg is making himself very popular with the people of the over-flooded districts, by his persistent efforts to secure government aid for them in their present deplorable condition.

EDWARD LILIENTHAL.

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THE LOUISIANIAN

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1892.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

In reply to a request from Gov. McEnery, the Secretary of War ordered 100,000 rations to be delivered to the commissioners at New Orleans for the sufferers by floods in Louisiana.

Sergeant Massey who fired at the assassin, Guiteau, through the window of his cell, while guarding him, has been tried by Court-Martial. The sentence is to be dishonorably discharged from the army, and to be confined in the penitentiary at hard labor for eight years.

Congressman Darrall has appointed as cadet at West Point Armand J. Lasegue, of Lafourche, who passed a competitive examination.

Major Marrod, Prof. Mitchell and other members of the River Commission, appeared before the Mississippi river Committee of Congress, and made interesting statements regarding the river and its overflows. They advised levee building as the only permanent and efficient remedy.

It is given out in Washington that Secretary Hunt will shortly retire from the Navy Department, to be succeeded by Hon. Wm. E. Chandler. Chief Justice Drake, of the Court of Claims, and Chief Justice Carter of the Supreme Court of the District, are both eligible for retirement under the law. It is regarded as probable that Secretary Hunt will be Chief Justice of one of these Courts before the month is out.

Capt. J. M. Lee, of the United States Army has ascertained by a thorough investigation of the inundated district, that there are about 68,000 square miles of country between Memphis and Vicksburg is subject to overflow, and nearly all of this country is now under water. The population of this territory is 150,000, and fully one-third, or 50,000 souls, are suffering and would be dependent upon the bounty of the government for 40 days to keep them from starvation.

John Russell Young, one of Gen. Grant's intimate friends, and who accompanied the General on his tour around the World has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to China.

The President has appointed Judge Samuel Blatchford, of New York, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, vice Hon. Roscoe Conkling, who declined the proffered honor after having been confirmed by a decided majority in the Senate.

Representative Robertson, of Louisiana has introduced in Congress a bill for the protection of life and property endangered by floods of the Mississippi river.

Labor strikes are becoming prevalent throughout the North. The action of the Pacific Mill Corporation at Lawrence, Mass., in reducing wages in the worsted department was followed by a general strike of 120 women and girls, causing the stoppage of 6,400 spindles. For some time past 300 employees of the Union rolling mills of South Chicago have been out on a general strike. The Knights of Labor, Miners in Cumberland mining district, Maryland, stopped work last Tuesday, bringing out all their tools. Serious labor riots have occurred at Homestead, Penn., and at Omaha, Neb., fortunately with no fatal results.

Near Waterburg, Vt., Sunday last, Michael McAffrie, aged 50 years, while insane, butchered his wife and his aged mother and hid the bodies in the cellar of his house. Coming to town with his seven children, last Tuesday, the eldest gave the first intimation of the horrible crime.

Local.

These warm sultry nights admonish us of the early departure of cool weather.

The mosquitoes are buzzing already, and will soon present their little bills, demanding prompt payment at sight.

We are pleased to meet our esteemed friend Mr. John B. Burch of Cincinnati Ohio, the guest of Mr. H. McCray.

Mr. Charles H. Gordon, arrived from Plaquemine, Iberville parish, during the week.

We understand that several of the clerks in the Surveyor General's office will be suspended on account of the appropriation being exhausted.

Hon. W. H. Lynch, member of the Mississippi legislature, paid us a short visit last week, and departed for home on the 11th inst.

It gives us pleasure to announce that Mr. Henry Taylor, after a slight illness, is again presiding at his chair at the "old reliable stand," Martin's Barber Shop, 54 Perdido Street.

We are pleased to chronicle that our ladies have at last received recognition in the U. S. Mint. Miss Frances Hawkins, niece of Col. James Lewis, and Miss Alice Crozier, daughter of Hon. Oscar Crozier, have received appointments in the Coiner's department.

The joint committee of the Lodges of the U. J. O. O. F. will assemble at their Hall to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock sharp. This committee meets for the purpose of arranging the programme for the grand anniversary celebration and levee at the Fair Grounds on the 10th of May.

Senator Henry Demas, our able leader in the State Senate, arrived from his plantation last Wednesday. He reports the levees in his parish in good condition, and anticipates a fine crop from his section.

Our esteemed young friend, Mr. Oscar Berhel, is still confined to his room. His brother informed us that his condition was critical last Tuesday. We voice the fervent wish of his many friends, that he may soon recover and allow us to congratulate him.

Mr. G. R. M. Newman has resigned his position in the Post Office. Mr. Newman has rendered us valuable assistance on the columns of our paper, and we trust that he will soon secure a position in some other sphere suitable to his energy and talents.

At a large meeting of the Republicans of the 11th Ward on the 8th inst., the following gentlemen were elected the officers of the Central Club for the ensuing term:

Hon. C. R. Gordon, President; H. Crumps and P. Packard Vice-Presidents; R. L. Adams, Secretary; Mr. Hamilton, Treasurer.

Hon. H. C. C. Astwood on the eve of his departure for his official residence, St. Domingo City, was highly complimented last Friday evening, by being the honored guest at a reception tendered to him by Capt. and Mrs. J. Ross Stewart, at their residence on Gasquet St.

Among the guests present on the occasion were Gov. Pinchback, Hon. T. T. Allain and other prominent citizens. The occasion was an enjoyable one, enlivened by scintillations of art and a genial flow of humor. Toasts were given and very happily responded to by Gov. Pinchback, and Messrs. T. T. Allain, H. C. C. Astwood and others.

Hon. T. T. Allain, of Iberville, reached the city on Wednesday evening, by the Texas Pacific R. R., representing the planters in Iberville and West Baton Rouge to ask aid of money, to be placed in the hands of the Governor, for the purpose of buying lumber, wheelbarrows, &c., and to pay hands working on the levees in Iberville and West Baton Rouge, thereby protecting the parishes of St. Mary, St. Martin, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Assumption and Iberia. These levees are in a precarious condition and cannot stand an additional rise of six inches. If this aid which is asked, to be placed in the hands of the Governor is forthcoming, it will not only save an inundation of the finest sugar plantations in the State, thereby precluding the necessity of issuing rations to a large number of our people, which will be absolutely necessary in the event that either of these levees should break, but will also save property to the value of two or three millions of dollars.

The following communication from the Republicans of the upper district is an augury that "it's catching."

The active and stalwart Republican of the 16th Ward have followed the example of the boys down town and have organized a club styled the Stalwart Invincible Republican Club of the 16th Ward. Their object is to rally the different factions of the party and to encourage the election and appointment of none but worthy and tried Republicans to office and to dispose of the drones and corrupt men as the leaders. The club numbers some hundred and twenty-two members of the bone and sinew of the 16th Ward. At their last meeting they passed a resolution endorsing the nomination and prompt confirmation of Gov. Pinchback and endorse the LOUISIANIAN for its exposition of corruption in the management of the Mint, these resolutions passed amid great applause.

M. KAISER, President, C. C. Wilson, Secretary.

MEMORIAL MEETING.

HENRY HIGHLAND GARNETT.

ANOTHER GREAT MAN HAS FALLEN.

A memorial meeting in commemoration of the distinguished life, character, and public services of the Rev. Henry Highland Garnett, D. D., late Minister resident and Consul General of the United States to the Republic of Liberia, West coast of Africa, will be held at St. James Chapel, Roman street between Bienville and Custom-house streets, on Sunday evening March 19th, 1892, at 7½ o'clock.

It may well be said that Dr. Garnett was, without question, one of the ablest and most distinguished representative men of the African race upon the American Continent. Rev. A. M. Green will deliver the memorial address. Let us honor his memory by such testimonial of respect as sincere and grateful hearts alone are able to bestow.

J. W. Pierce, E. W. Thompson, Steven Priestly, A. E. P. Albert, G. Adams, A. M. Green.

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